

Message Text

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SUBJECT: ACOUSTIC SIGNALS TRANSMISSION STUDY IN THE
GEORGIA STRAIT

1. THE OCEAN PHYSICS GROUP OF THE APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON DESIRES TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF TRANSMISSION OF ACOUSTIC SIGNALS IN THE GEORGIA STRAIT DURING THE PERIOD 14 JUNE TO 3 JULY 1975. RESEARCH WILL BE CONDUCTED UTILIZING USNS DE STEIGUER (T-AGOR 12). DE STEIGUER, 208 FT LONG, WITH A BEAM OF 39 FT AND A DRAFT OF 15 FT, IS COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN MARTIN LUGENDURF AND HAS A CREW OF TWENTY-SIX. IN ADDITION THERE IS A PLANNED SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF TWELVE AND ACCOMODATIONS FOR ONE CANADIAN SCIENTIST.

2. THE OCEAN PHYSICS GROUP IS ENGAGED IN AN ONGOING PROGRAM TO STUDY THE TRANSMISSION OF ACOUSTIC SIGNALS IN DEEP OCEAN WATERS AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO ENVIRONMENTAL MEAS-
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UREMENTS. THE NEXT MAJOR STEP IN THIS PROGRAM WILL BE AN EXPERIMENT PLANNED FOR EXECUTION NEAR MIDWAY ISLAND DURING 1976. AN INTERIM STEP INVOLVES A SCALED-DOWN EXPERIMENT PLANNED, SUBJECT TO GOC CLEARANCE, IN THE GEORGIA STRAIT

DURING JUNE 1975. GEORGIA STRAIT HAS BEEN SELECTED BECAUSE IT IS A DEEP FIORD CLOSE TO SEATTLE, AND BECAUSE

WASHINGTON STATE FIORDS ARE NEITHER DEEP ENOUGH NOR LARGE ENOUGH TO CARRY OUT THE EXPERIMENT. ALL OPERATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN A 15 MILE RADIUS OF LATITUDE 49O25'N- LONGITUDE 124O22'W. APPROXIMATE TIME ON STATION WILL BE 151300Z JUNE TO 012100Z JULY 1975.

3. AFTER ARRIVAL ON STATION SUFFICIENT BATHYMETRY WILL BE TAKEN TO DETERMINE WHICH OF TWO POSSIBLE SITES IN THE AREA HAS THE MOST FAVORABLE BOTTOM CONTOURS FOR THE INSTALLATION. A TRANSMITTER TOWER, A TEMPORARY TRIPOD ARRAY 15 METERS HIGH WILL BE SET ON THE BOTTOM AT ABOUT 200 METERS DEPTH. A PAIR OF 15-METER HIGH RECEIVER TOWERS, WILL ALSO BE PLACED AT 200 METERS DEPTH. RECOVERY LINES FROM THE TOWERS WILL BE RUN TOWARD SHALLOWER WATER AND SECURED WITH SUB-SURFACE FLOATS (FOR DIVER ACCESS). THUS THE TEMPORARY TOWERS WILL PRESENT NO HAZARDS TO NAVIGATION. A RADIO-TELEMETRY BUOY WILL BE INSTALLED NEAR THE RECEIVER TOWER FOR PURPOSES OF DATA TRANSMISSION TO THE SHIP. THIS BUOY WILL HAVE A FLASHING LIGHT AND A RADAR REFLECTOR ON THE 4-METER HIGH ANTENNA MAST. THREE TAUT MOORED VERTICAL ARRAYS WILL BE ARRANGED IN A TRIANGLE ABOUT 300 METERS APART, AND WILL BE HELD TAUT BY SUBSURFACE FLOATS SO THEY WILL NOT PRESENT HAZARDS TO NAVIGATION. DURING THE EXPERIMENT, ADDITIONAL TEMPERATURE CAN CONDUCTIVITY DATA WILL

BE GATHERED WITH SPURV, A REMOTELY CONTROLLED UNDERWATER VEHICLE, AND WITH A STANDARD SVCTD VERTICAL PROFILING SYSTEM. A SKETCH SHOWING THE COMPLETE INSTALLATION IS BEING POUCHED SEPARATELY.

4. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE EXPERIMENT ALL TOWERS AND UNDERWATER ARRAYS WILL BE RECOVERED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE TAUT-MOORED ARRAY ANCHORS. EACH ANCHOR WEIGHS ABOUT 1000 POUNDS AND CONSISTS OF TWO RAILCAR WHEELS.
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5. DATA COLLECTED WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO CANADIAN AUTHORITIES.

6. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FOR THIS RESEARCH EXPERIMENT. KISSINGER

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